

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 SS-15 AID-05 SP-02  
NSCE-00 OMB-01 TRSY-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 H-01  
SIG-03 IO-13 /083 W  
-----106609 290647Z /10

R 281830Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8167  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 08028

PARIS ALSO FOR USOEC

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEC

DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR HENRY OWEN

DEPT PASS AID FOR GOVERNOR GILLIGAN

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAID, FR, GW  
SUBJECT: GISCARD'S AFRICAN AID INITIATIVE:  
FRG POSITION

REF: A) STATE 95668 B) MCLEAN/BACHE TELECON,  
APRIL 24

1. SUMMARY. FRG REMAINS FIRMLY OPPOSED TO GISCARD  
INITIATIVE. FRG FEELS STRONGLY ON THIS ISSUE AND  
WE WOULD ANTICIPATE REAL DIFFICULTIES IN PERSUADING  
THEM OTHERWISE. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING BONN VISIT OF AID ADMINISTRATOR GILLIGAN  
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(MEMCON POUCHED TO USAID, EUR/CE AND EUR/RPE), FRG  
OFFICIALS MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT THEY WERE TOTALLY  
OPPOSED TO THE GISCARD INITIATIVE AND THAT CHANCELLOR  
SCHMIDT HAD SO INFORMED PRESIDENT GISCARD. GERMANS  
BELIEVE GISCARD MAY RAISE HIS PROPOSAL AGAIN AT JULY  
ECONOMIC SUMMIT.

3. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE ALREADY ENOUGH (IF NOT TOO MANY) MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS DEALING WITH AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN GENERAL AND AID TO AFRICA IN PARTICULAR. ACTIVITIES OF THESE INSTITUTIONS (INCLUDING AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND, UNDP, WORLD BANK, DAC, ETC.) COULD AND SHOULD INCLUDE CONSULTATION OF AFRICAN LEADERS, POLITICALLY VISIBLE MOVES, ETC.

4. GERMANS HAVE ALSO BEEN QUITE CRITICAL OF ACTIVITIES OF CLUB DES AMIS DU SAHEL, BASED ON THEIR OPINION THAT NUMEROUS MEETINGS HAVE BEEN HELD, BUT VERY LITTLE IN CONCRETE TERMS HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. CLUB IS DIRECTED PRIMARILY AT FRANCOPHONE STATES AND POLITICAL BENEFIT, IF ANY, REDOUNDS PRIMARILY TO FRANCE.

5. ON APRIL 28, FRG FONOFF OFFICIALS INFORMED EMBOFF THAT, AT APRIL 27 INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING, POSITION STATED TO GOVERNOR GILLIGAN WAS CONFIRMED. IF GOF INVITES GERMANS TO EXPERT MEETING, LATTER WILL ACCEPT INVITATION, BUT AT MEETING FRG DELEGATION WILL STATE ITS SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT GISCARD IDEA. THEY WILL NOT REPEAT NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY NEW FUND OR INSTITUTION NOR ACCEPT A QUOTA IN ANY NEW AID DISTRIBUTION SCHEME. NEVERTHELESS THEY MIGHT CONFIDENTIAL

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AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME LARGE PROJECT

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SIG-03 IO-13 /083 W  
-----107165 290647Z/11

R 281830Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8168  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PROPOSED BY THE FRENCH IF THEY BELIEVE THE PROJECT  
IS SOUND.

6. COMMENT: FRG OBVIOUSLY FEELS STRONGLY ON THIS ISSUE. THEY BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE BEEN LED DOWN GARDEN PATH BY FRENCH ON AFRICAN AID ISSUES BEFORE (I.E. CLUB DES AMIS DU SAHEL). HENCE THEY LOOK ON Giscard's INITIATIVE WITH JAUNDICED EYE. IN PARTICULAR THEY OPPOSE CREATION OF ANY NEW MULTILATERAL INSTITUTION, SINCE THEIR EXPERIENCE (AND OURS) SUGGEST THAT NEW INSTITUTIONS GENERATE FEW ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR IMPOVERISHED COUNTRIES, BUT DO CREATE AN EXPENSIVE ADDITIONAL LAYER OF BUREAUCRACY. FROMENT MEURICE HAS, OF COURSE, RECOGNIZED THAT US CAN-NOT SUPPORT CREATION OF ANY SUCH NEW FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (PARA 3 REFTEL), BUT COORDINATION OF EFFORTS ALONG LINES HE SUGGESTS PRESUMABLY WOULD REQUIRE FAIRLY SUBSTANTIAL COMMITMENT OF FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES BY MEMBERS OF CLUB IF IT IS TO BE EFFECTIVE. WE ANTICIPATE FRG WILL BE QUITE

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TOUGH ON THIS POINT, AND, SINCE IT ACCORDS SO CLOSELY TO WHAT HAS BEEN TRADITIONAL US POLICY WE BELIEVE WE WOULD FACE REAL DIFFICULTIES IN PERSUADING THEM OTHERWISE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Subject:** GISCARD'S AFRICAN AID INITIATIVE: FRG POSITION  
**TAGS:** EAID, FR, GE, (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY)  
**To:** STATE USOECD MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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